

Elementary School

Be a hero. Spill the water!

DON'T BE A MOSQUITO SNACK! Before you go outside, have a grown-up help you cover up with a hero costume and invisibility bug spray!

mosquito snacks?

Birds, fish, bats and spiders love to snack on mosquitoes. Draw a line between the snack and the snacker.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Grade 1

Mosquito Snacks The Mosquito Snacks activity sheet is great for teaching kids how to use their senses to make observations about animals and plants. Can be used with the PBS video *What do Animals Eat?* to help students explore what different animals eat: www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/tdc02.sci.life.colt.eat/what-do-animals-eat/



ALIGNS WITH:

SC.1.L.14.1 Make observations of living things and their environment using the five senses.

Middle School

Grade 6

How Many Mosquitoes? Did you know that many of Florida's native animals and insects love to eat mosquitoes? In fact, the eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*), is an efficient and natural predator of mosquitoes—this little fish is known to eat as much as one and a half times its body weight in various invertebrate prey like mosquito larvae in a day. Mosquito control districts across the country use the eastern and western mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) to help reduce mosquito populations.

ALIGNS WITH:

MAFS.6.EE.2.7 Solve real-world and mathematical problems by writing and solving equations of the form $x + p = q$ and $px = q$ for cases in which p , q and x are all non-negative rational numbers.

i. HE.6.C.1.3 Identify environmental factors that affect personal health.

Be a hero. Spill the water!

SAVE FLORIDA FROM MOSQUITOES! (SPILL STANDING WATER!)

plants vs. mosquitoes

Could carnivorous plants help control the mosquito population?

Venus fly traps contain tiny hairs to detect the presence of insects that land within their leafy jaws.

Bladderworts contain digestive juices like mosquitoes through the tiny bladders attached to their leaves.

Pitcher plants contain digestive juices which are highly acidic to break down insects that land inside of their pitcher.

Answer: While certain carnivorous plants don't add to the mosquito population, they don't eliminate vast numbers either. Mosquitoes can actually lay their eggs in the standing water of certain types of pitcher plants which goes to show that very small amounts of standing water can be mosquito breeding grounds. Spilling standing water controls the mosquito population—that makes you the answer!

DON'T BE A MOSQUITO SNACK! Before you go outside, cover up with long sleeve shirts and pants, and EPA-approved bug spray.

Be a hero. Spill the water!

SAVE FLORIDA FROM MOSQUITOES! (SPILL STANDING WATER!)

how many mosquitoes?

Did you know that many of Florida's native animals and insects love to eat mosquitoes? In fact, the eastern mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*), is an efficient and natural predator of mosquitoes. This little fish is known to eat as much as one and a half times its body weight in various invertebrate prey (animals with no spine) like mosquito larvae in a day. Mosquito control districts across the country use the eastern and western mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) to help reduce mosquito populations.

If a mosquitofish can eat 1,000 mosquito larvae in an hour, and 3 mosquitofish are feeding for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, how many larvae can they consume?

Answer: 10,500 larvae
Learn more about Florida's native animals: <http://myfwc.com/wildliferehabilitations/profiles/>.

DON'T BE A MOSQUITO SNACK! Before you go outside, cover up with long sleeve shirts and pants, and EPA-approved bug spray.

High School

Grade 9–12

Plants vs. Mosquitoes

Teachers can introduce this activity with a video to highlight facts about carnivorous plants: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ktlGVtkDgwo

ALIGNS WITH:

SC.912.L.14.7 Relate the structure of each of the major plant organs and tissues to physiological processes.

ii. HE.912.C.1.3 Evaluate how environment and personal health are interrelated.

SpillTheWater.com